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16 January 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR SPECIAL OPERATIONS

SUBJECT: Prospective Appointment of Senior CIA  
Representative [REDACTED]

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1. Confirming our conversation of yesterday morning and in accordance with your request, I am furnishing to you herewith a copy of a memorandum which I addressed to Mr. Jackson and Mr. Dulles on 2 January 1951. Your attention is particularly invited to paragraphs 1 and 4 of this memorandum. I gather from your remarks to me that your position is very close, if not identical to mine as stated in paragraph 4 of the memorandum.

2. It is, of course, possible that I have made some erroneous assumptions concerning the area of responsibility and the manner of tie-in intended for this particular senior representative. However, the fact remains that he should not leave Washington until he has been thoroughly indoctrinated and until the details of his cover position have been worked out.

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[REDACTED]  
FRANK G. WISNER  
Assistant Director for  
Policy Coordination

Attachment:

Cpy of Memo dtd 2 Jan 51  
fr ADPC to D/DCI and DD/P

HS/CSG-7429

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C O P Y

2 January 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR: DEPUTY DIRECTOR, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, (PLANS)

SUBJECT: Prospective Appointment of Senior CIA Representative  
[REDACTED]

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1. The following thoughts with which I have been preoccupied include some which are so self-evident that I have hesitated to discuss this matter with you in detail previously. However, in view of the apparent eminence of your selection of an individual (whose name you have mentioned to me) for the position of Senior CIA representative [REDACTED] I am prompted to submit this memorandum.

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2. I do not know precisely what you contemplate as being either the precise area of responsibility of this senior representative or the position you would propose for him to occupy in the appropriate American hierarchy in the area concerned. I would assume that you have in mind attaching this individual in some manner to the [REDACTED]

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3. As I have told you on previous occasions, we within OPC are well along in our thinking with respect to the creation of a Senior OPC representative for [REDACTED] and would propose to decentralize to that person much of the authority heretofore retained by and exercised from our Washington headquarters. We have refrained from taking any such step as this up to the present time for a variety of reasons, among which the more substantial are the following:

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c. The circumstances and status of the overall political situation has only recently reached the point of crisis which requires us to deal with the problem in this general area in

the manner

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the manner envisaged. It is our view that the situation has become so serious and so urgent that this decision should not be much longer delayed.

d. We have been awaiting a solution of certain other internal and external organizational problems, including the Director's decision to appoint senior representatives and agreement within the Agency as to the definition of responsibilities and authority of such individuals, as well as the relationship of CIA (OPC) to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, theater commanders, etc., in time of war or national emergency.

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4. It is our view that the unresolved aspects of the questions immediately above mentioned should be largely disposed of before the Senior Representative for [REDACTED] is sent to assume his position. Otherwise he will not know where he stands or how he should proceed. But of equal, if not greater, importance is the fact that he should become thoroughly familiarized with secret intelligence and secret operations activities within his area and also the plans, policies, and practices of OPC and OSO as seen by those of us in Washington who have responsibility for the planning and conduct of these activities. He should by all means become well acquainted with the personalities of Washington headquarters and learn a good deal about how the organization functions. All of the foregoing applies with much greater force and effect to the case of a new man or an outsider being brought into the organization than it would if a senior and relatively experienced CIA officer were selected for the position.

5. I should like to discuss this matter with you and with General Smith some time in the near future, and in any case, at or about the time of the arrival of the individual who, I understand, has been tentatively selected for this position.

FRANK G. WISNER  
Assistant Director for  
Policy Coordination

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